

General MacArthur or How Some Random Retard Tried to Create a Giant Wall of Radiation with Nuclear Artillery in Korea for No Reason & Was Pretty Much Single Handedly Responsible for Every Conflict in the Region Since Then

General Douglas MacArthur's desire to use nuclear weapons during the Korean War was driven by his goal of achieving a decisive and total military victory, which he believed was being hampered by political restrictions from Washington.

He proposed a multi-part plan to break the stalemate and stop the Chinese forces:

- **Destruction of Chinese Military Assets:** He wanted to drop between 30 and 50 tactical atomic bombs on air bases and supply depots in Manchuria, across the border from North Korea.
- **Creation of a "Radioactive Barrier":** In a highly controversial proposal, he suggested creating a belt of radioactive cobalt from the Sea of Japan to the Yellow Sea. He claimed this "wall of radiation" would prevent any further land invasions from China for 60 to 120 years.
- **A "Two-Pronged" Invasion:** He planned to use Chinese Nationalist troops from Taiwan, along with U.S. Marines, to launch an amphibious invasion from the north, trapping the Chinese and North Korean forces between the new force and the existing UN forces in the south.

MacArthur's push for a full-scale, aggressive victory in the Korean War, which included his public defiance of President Truman, had lasting consequences that have contributed to the region's tensions to this day. His actions ultimately solidified the Cold War's "limited war" policy, but they did so at the cost of a long-term resolution for Korea.

Key Consequences of MacArthur's Actions

- **The Enduring Division of Korea:** By clashing with Truman's policy of containment and a limited war, MacArthur's proposals were rejected. The war ended in a military armistice, not a formal peace treaty, which left the Korean peninsula permanently divided at the **38th parallel**. This division remains the source of ongoing political and military tension.
- **The Entrenchment of the U.S. Military in Asia:** The conflict established a clear Cold War boundary in Asia, leading to a long-term **U.S. military presence** in South Korea and the surrounding region to deter a future invasion from the North. This military commitment has been a source of tension with North Korea and China for over 70 years.
- **A Precedent for Civil-Military Relations:** MacArthur's public insubordination set a critical precedent for **civil-military relations** in the United States. His

dismissal affirmed that the military, no matter how popular, is subordinate to civilian authority. This resolved a constitutional crisis but left a legacy of debate over the political vs. military objectives in foreign conflicts.

- **The Justification for a "Limited War":** MacArthur's actions, and the threat of a wider conflict with China and the Soviet Union, demonstrated the immense risks of "all-out" war in the nuclear age. This reinforced the strategy of **limited war**—fighting with specific, restricted goals to avoid a larger, catastrophic confrontation. While this prevented World War III, it also meant that a definitive victory in Korea, and thus a unified peninsula, would not be achieved.